

1204/25 telegram issued to

Cd'A, Indulary

11.8.75

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9551(5)75

Ministry of External Affairs

s. No (1) Recept

Reference letter below from our Ambassador. I have discussed it with him since he is now in Delhi. It appears that such ceremonies are not held annually but only on special occasions. Ambassador Than himself has not attended any such ceremony during the last three years. However, as and when the ceremonies were held, our Embassy appears to have been represented. The telegram to which the letter refers may be seen in the file placed below (flag "A").

- The question for consideration is whether the CDA may be allowed to participate in the ceremony now proposed to be held on 13th August. Since a small Memorial is being planned, our participation would appear to commit the Government of India.
- The Ambassador has pointed out that Government of India has since accepted the Khosla Committee recommendations. Having regard to the local circumstances, therefore, there would be no harm in such participation by the CDA. It is not likely to draw any adverse comment or reaction among the circles in India who may still be unconvinced about Netaji's death.
- 4. We may accept the Ambassador's recommendation and authorise the CDA to attend the ceremony. JS(EA), who has since returned from Kampala, may kindly see. these papers and put them up to Secretary (East).

Krishnan) Joint Secretary(UN)

Reference F.R. and note above.

- I should recommend that our Cd'A be authorised to attend the proposed memorial service, even though on this occasion it is proposed to construct a small sone memorial within the premises of the temple.
- On past occasions when a memorial service was held, our Ambassadors to Japan had been permitted to attend. The matter had been considered in 1968 by the Political Affairs Committee of the Cabinet. Instructions to the Ambassador sent in August that year may be seen at S. No. 25 (Flag 'A'). Since then, the Khosla Enquiry Committee Report has also been accepted by Government. FM. NO CER!

Submitted.

Secy. (E)

(Gurbachan Singh ) JS(EA) 7.8.75

Since the subject matter is being dealt with by EA Division; it is for order whether the F.R. and this not may be down graded to "Secret" and transferred to that Dirinin along with their file which is placed before.

May be downgraded to Secret'

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Talegram in question has been

sent by 78(EA)13 Office KNGO.

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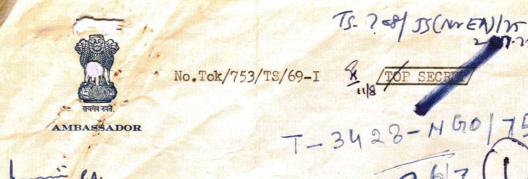
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AS(ENT) Thanks.

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TOKYO

July 21, 1975.

My dear Gurbachan Singh.

As in previous years, Rev. Mochizuki, Chief Priest of the Renkoji Temple, where the ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose are kept, has informed the Embassy that he would like to hold a memorial service in the memory of Netaji at his temple from 2 p.m. on 18th August, 1975. Since this is the 30th Anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's death, Rev. Mochizuki has proposed the construction of a small stone memorial within the premises of Renkoji Temple in memory of Netaji. The details of the monument to be constructed are as follows:

For instructions on para 4. blease

Height 1.5m Width 45cm Thickness 20cm

Inscription on "Monument for Netaji the stone Subhash Chandra Bose" memorial

Suthas

Rev. Mochizuki also proposes to invite the following for the

- 1. The Head of Mission and such officials of the Embassy as he might think fit;
- 2. Parishners of the Renkoji Temple;
- 3. Priests of other temples concerned with Renkoji Temple;
- 4. Members of the Subhas Chandra Bose Academy headed by Mrs. Amori (this organisation has looked after Indian students in the past);
- 5. Old friends of Netaji like General Fujiwara and Mr. Takaoka, Vice-President of the Indo-Japanese Association; and
- 6. Some Foreign Office officials.
- You may be aware of the fact that Ambassadors on past occasions had been attending such ceremonies and a specific decision of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Cabinet to this effect was taken in 1968 (conveyed to us vide the then Secretary-I's telegram No. 24719 dated 8th August, 1968, paraphrased copy enclosed).

JS(EA) o.v.

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TOP SECRET

4. Rev. Mochizuki's proposal to construct a memorial and the Charge d'Affaires presence are factors which have to be considered against the background that there are some people in India who are still averse to accepting the fact that Netaji is dead. However, taking local factors into consideration, I feel that the Charge d'Affaires may participate. Could you kindly send a telex message in confirmation as early as possible?

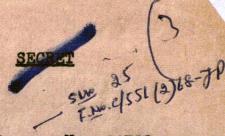
With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(S. Than)

Shri Gurbachan Singh, Joint Secretary (EA), Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi.

TOP SECRET



Paraphrase copy of Secretary I's telegram No. 24719 dated 8th August, 1968, addressed to Indembassy Tokyo.

Yesterday, the Cabinet's Foreign Affairs Committee discussed the matter regarding the attendance of the Ambassador at functions connected with the death of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose. Even in the first such memorial meeting held in 1959, our Ambassador was invited and the Government had agreed to his participation. In view of the fact that Government have accepted the findings of Shahnawaz Committee Report which was placed on September 11, 1956, on the table of the House, the Ambassador was given permission to attend this meeting as well.

- 2. The Ambassador was asked to persuade the organisers of the meeting not to raise controversies regarding the shifting of Netaji's ashes from Japan to India and as stated by the late Prime Minister Nehru, this is a matter which is primarily the concern of the family of Netaji and the Government would take steps only with their consultations and good will.
- 3. It was felt that there is a body of opinion in India which continues to doubt the death of Netaji and in deference to the wishes of the family of Netaji and in an effort to avoid raising a controversy, the Government decided not to bring the ashes back to India but to leave them presently with the Head Priest of the Renkoji Temple for which a sum of Rs. 5,000/- per annum is paid for its continued upkeep. The entire matter has been explained to the Government of Japan and through their Embassy in New Delhi and they seem to appreciate the difficulties and are satisfied with the arrangements.